

A.P. Language and Composition

Words to Describe Tone

admiring	contemplative	forceful	lamenting
aggressive	contemptuous	formal	languid
agitated	conversational	forthright	light
aloof	critical	frank	lighthearted
ambivalent	cynical	frantic	lively
amused	dark	friendly	loving
animated	defiant	frustrated	matter-of-fact
angry	derogatory	gentle	melancholy
anxious	despairing	gloomy	mocking
apathetic	detached	grim	monotonous
apologetic	determined	gruesome	morbid
apprehensive	dignified	happy	mournful
approving	disapproving	harried	musings
arrogant	disdainful	harsh	mysterious
assertive	disgusted	hateful	neutral
authoritative	disillusioned	haughty	nostalgic
bashful	disparaging	hesitant	ominous
belligerent	disrespectful	hopeful	optimistic
bitter	dissatisfied	humorous	outraged
bold	distant	iconoclastic	passionate
brash	dreamy	impassioned	patient
brazen	dry	impatient	patronizing
cajoling	eager	incensed	pensive
callous	earnest	incredulous	persuasive
calm	eerie	indifferent	pessimistic
candid	elegiac	indignant	philosophical
carefree	elevated	inflammatory	playful
careful	embarrassed	informative	pleading
caring	enthusiastic	inquisitive	pompous
cautionary	exaggerated	insistent	positive
cautious	excited	insolent	pretentious
cheerful	expectant	insulting	prideful
combative	facetious	intellectual	proud
comical	factual	inviting	provocative
compassionate	fanciful	irate	reflective
concerned	fearful	ironic	reminiscent
condemning	fearless	jaded	remorseful
condescending	fierce	joyous	remote
confident	firm	judgmental	resentful
conservative	foreboding	know-it-all	resigned

respectful
restrained
reverent
romantic
sarcastic
satiric
scornful
sentimental

serious
sharp
sincere
skeptical
solemn
somber
sorrowful
spiteful

strong
superior
sympathetic
thoughtful
unapologetic
upbeat
urgent
whimsical

wistful
wondering
worried
wry
zealous